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Approved For Release 2004/05/13 : CIA-RDP91M00696R000500130005-3

6 July 1977

SUBJECT: Comments on IC Staff's Futures Study

I believe that the descriptions in the Far East annex need sharpening and perhaps greater accuracy. They also need the support of a better data base.

1. With respect to the last point, the Council on Foreign Relations is publishing an excellent study on China by Dernberger and Whiting of Michigan which concerns China in the 1980s. It is now being published and I suggest it become an essential part of the bibliography and reading for the authors of the annex.

2. Page 8: The Chinese have prototype satellites now. The 1990s date in your annex appears unduly pessimistic, and not quite accurate.

3. Page 6: The key problem for China in the 80s is going to be agricultural productivity versus population. This annex talks to the subject but doesn't face it head on. Capital investment, foreign trade, stability and unity in China are all linked to this problem. It should be emphasized more.

4. Page 6: The mid 1990s for strategic deployment against the US should probably be adjusted. It will probably happen sooner. It's not a question of "equivalent capability" but a capability.

5. Page 1 on Southeast Asia: One wonders if the PRC "will be the most prominent military factor in the region". They are not moving too quickly in that direction right now. Also the emphasis on the outcome of the Taiwan issue is perhaps overdone in terms of US influence and power in Asia. There will be other more important factors which could offset Taiwan.

[Redacted Signature]

National Intelligence Officer
for China

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TRANSMITTAL SLIP		DATE
TO: All NIOs / EAP		1 July 77
ROOM NO.	BUILDING	
REMARKS:		
Attached are the appropriate sections of the IC Staff's Futures study. Could you please have your comments to me by COB Thursday, 7 July.		
FROM:		
ROOM NO.	BUILDING	EXTENSION

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FORM NO. 241
1 FEB 55

REPLACES FORM 36-8
WHICH MAY BE USED.

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